GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2257
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2005
BREAK UP OF AGRICULTURAL GROWTH RATE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of agricultural growth rate during each of the last three year;

(b) the agricultural growth rate estimated to be achieved this year;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the agricultural growth rate; and

(d) the extent of success achieved by the Government as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): According to data released by Central Statistical Organization (CSO), growth rate in agriculture, including allied sectors of forestry and logging, and fishing computed in real terms (at 1993-94 prices) in last three years is given below:

Year	Growth rate for agriculture including allied sectors of forestry & logging and fishing.
2002-03	- 7%
2003-04	9.6%
2004-05	1.1%

(b): The Mid-Tem Appraisal of the Tenth Plan has indicated 4.0% growth rate in agriculture including allied sectors.

(c)& (d): The steps taken by the Government to enhance production and productivity of agricultural crops, including horticulture crops, include significant step up in investment in irrigation, special attention to dryland farming and the Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM). Keeping in view the importance of Agriculture in the economy, the Union Budget 2005-06 has provided substantial outlays in the areas like horticulture and irrigation including micro irrigation. The budget has provided Rs.630 crore in 2005-06 for National Horticulture Mission, which will ensure end-to-end approach having backward and forward linkages covering research, production, post harvest management, processing and marketing, under one umbrella, in an integrated manner. The budget has provided Rs.4800 crore for Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme for 2005-06 compared with Rs.2800 crore in 2004-05. With a view to improving water use efficiency in Indian agriculture, the Budget has provided Rs.400 crore for promoting micro irrigation in 2005-06. Since the flow of credit is important in accelerating the pace of investment in agriculture, the disbursement of agricultural credit is proposed to be stepped up by 30% per cent in 2005-06 over the disbursement of Rs.1,15,243/- crore in 2004-05, which exceeded the disbursement of Rs.86,981 crore made in 2003-04 by 32 per cent. The measures are expected to lead to a reversal of the deceleration in agricultural growth.